please consider the Fists group's criteria it will keep ham radio in it's high standards instead of dwindling requirements to a cb radio level yes it is a filter you have to work hard for things of importance such as hf privileges on the ham bands if i can pass 13wpm anyone can ,it was very difficult to pass and the rewards were great hf priveleges should be left as the ultimate goal to acheive in ham radio with worlwide capabilities other than satellite communication ,cherish ,nurcher etc not be dumbed down to a few winers who dont want to work for something 73' ke4wbo